

FIRST DAY

AFTERNOON MEETING

The Friday afternoon session of the Conference convened at 2:00 p.m. in the Tabernacle, with President David O. McKay presiding and conducting the services. The President announced that the singing for this session would be by the Brigham Young University Combined Choruses, Maughan McMurdie conducting, with Alexander Schreiner at the organ.

President David O. McKay:

The Tabernacle is filled to overflowing this Friday afternoon and many people are tuned in on the radios and televisions. We extend a hearty welcome to our unseen audience and to all who are gathered in this great hall.

We again acknowledge with appreciation the presence of our stake presidencies, high councilmen, bishoprics, temple presidencies, general auxiliary officers, patriarchs, and others, and we extend a hearty welcome and express satisfaction and pleasure in the attendance of special guests and prominent men in the nation and the state.

We are favored again this afternoon by the presence of the Brigham Young University Combined Choruses, with Professor Maughan McMurdie conduct-

ing and Alexander Schreiner at the organ. We shall begin these services by the Brigham Young University Combined Choruses singing, "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place." The invocation will be offered by Elder Benjamin W. Wilkerson, president of the South Carolina Stake.

The Brigham Young University Combined Choruses sang, "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place."

Benjamin W. Wilkerson, president of the South Carolina Stake, offered the opening prayer.

President David O. McKay:

The invocation was offered by Elder Benjamin W. Wilkerson, president of the South Carolina Stake. The Combined Choruses of Brigham Young University will now favor us with, "I Need Thee Every Hour," conducted by Maughan McMurdie. After the singing, Elder Joseph W. Anderson, Clerk of the Conference, will read some important statistical data of the Church.

The hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour," was sung by the Combined Choruses.

STATISTICAL REPORT — 1961

For the Information of the Members of the Church:

The First Presidency issued the following Statistical Report concerning the membership of the Church at the end of the year 1961.

I. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Number of Stakes of Zion at close of 1961	345
An increase of 26 Stakes during the year	
Number of Wards	2,691
Number of Independent Branches in Stakes	452
Total Wards and Independent Branches in Stakes at close of year	3,143
Number of Mission Branches at close of year	1,820
Number of Full-Time Missions at end of year	
(Not including Area Supervisory Missions	64

Church Membership, December 31, 1961:

In the Stakes	1,514,551	
In the Missions	309,110	
Total Membership		1,823,661
A net increase of 130,481 Members during the year		

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Church Growth during 1961:

Children blessed in Stakes and Missions	55,040
Children baptized in Stakes and Missions	46,365
Converts baptized in Stakes and Missions	88,807
An increase of 40,221 over the number of Convert Baptisms during the preceding year.	

Social Statistics:

(Based on 1961 data from the Stakes)

Birth rate per thousand	32.2
Marriage rate per thousand	8.43
Death rate per thousand	5.68

Priesthood:

Members holding the Aaronic Priesthood, December 31, 1961:

Deacons	86,099	
Teachers	65,277	
Priests	86,005	
Total number holding Aaronic Priesthood		237,381

Members holding the Melchizedek Priesthood, December 31, 1961:

Elders	164,186	
Seventies	21,373	
High Priests	52,221	
Total number holding Melchizedek Priesthood		237,780

Grand Total, members holding Aaronic or Melchizedek Priesthood 475,161

Auxiliary Organizations:

Relief Society (Membership)	231,175
Deseret Sunday School Union (average attendance)	680,999
Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association (enrollment)	188,259
Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association (enrollment)	203,556
Primary (children enrolled)	347,593

Welfare Plan:

Number of Persons assisted	106,882
Number placed in remunerative employment during the year	8,944
Man-days of work donated to the Welfare Plan during the year	145,200
Unit-days of equipment use donated	10,100

Genealogical Society:

Names cleared in 1961 for Temple Ordinances	1,079,093
Genealogical records microfilmed in 15 countries during the year were equivalent to 173,350 printed volumes of approximately 300 pages per volume.	

Temples:

Number of ordinances performed during 1961 in the 12 operating Temples:		
For the living	43,540	
For the dead	3,947,158	
Total number of ordinances		3,990,698

*Church School System:*Total 1961 cumulative enrollments in Church School System
(including schools in the Pacific):

College Students	28,442
Elementary and High School Students	66,696

Missionaries:

Number of Missionaries who at the close of 1961 were laboring under calls from the First Presidency in the full-time missions	10,383
Number of Local Missionaries (full-time and part-time) who at the close of 1961 were laboring in these missions	1,209
Number of Stake Missionaries at the close of the year	5,858
Total number of Missionaries at end of year	17,450
Number of Missionaries who received training in the Missionary Home during 1961	5,930

THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr., First Counselor in the First Presidency, passed away October 6, 1961.

Alonzo F. Hopkin, President of the Woodruff Stake.

Tracy Y. Cannon, Executive Chairman of the General Music Committee of the Church.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Orval W. Adams will now read the report of the Church Finance Committee.

**CHURCH FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT**

Elder Orval W. Adams read the following report:

April 2, 1962

The First Presidency
47 East South Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Brethren:

We have reviewed the report of the 1961 financial operations of the Corporation of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, as well as of auxiliaries and other organizations for which accounts are maintained in the Financial Department of the Church. Attention was given particularly to the accounting procedures followed as to funds received and to the manner in which expenditures are controlled. We have determined that the expenditures of such funds are authorized by The First Presidency or by budget procedures. The budget is authorized by the Council on Disposition of Tithes comprised of The First Presidency, the Council of the Twelve and the Presiding Bishopric.

A continuous audit of the financial records of the Church is conducted by the Church Auditing Department which is completely independent of all other departments. Professional auditing firms are employed to audit certain organizations, or businesses owned or controlled by the Church.

Based upon our review of the financial

reports of the Corporation of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and explanations made by the personnel of the Financial and Auditing Departments of the Church, we are of the opinion that the expenditures of funds during the year 1961 were made in accordance with the established procedures outlined herein.

We congratulate the General Authorities and their associates for the manner in which the finances of the Church are administered, and we commend the Church Financial Department and the Church Auditing Department for the expert and careful manner in which all financial records are maintained and audited.

Respectfully submitted,
**CHURCH FINANCE
COMMITTEE**

Orval W. Adams
Harold H. Bennett
Glenn E. Nielson
Wilford G. Edling
Weston E. Hamilton

President David O. McKay:

President Henry D. Moyle, First Counselor in the First Presidency, will now present the General Authorities, General Officers, and General Auxiliary Officers of the Church for the sustaining vote of this General Conference.

President Henry D. Moyle:

Sister Arta M. Hale, First Counselor to Sister LaVern Parmley, President of the Primary Association of The Church